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QUESADA
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HAYNES
HERE COMES...
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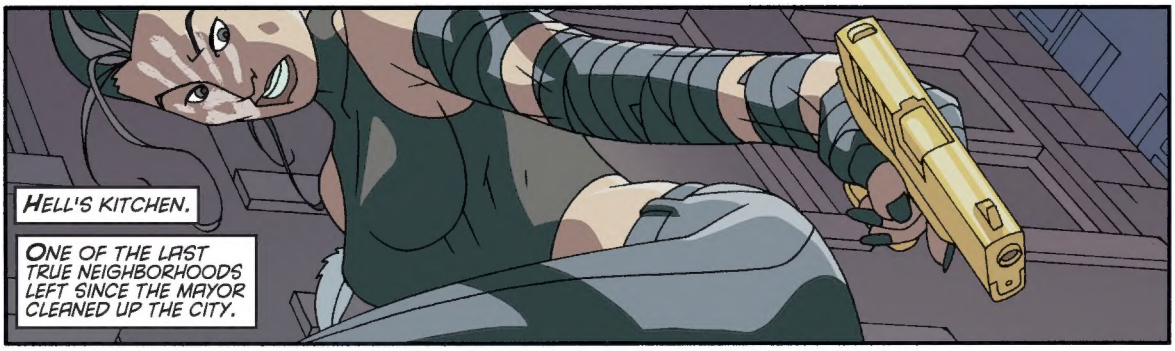
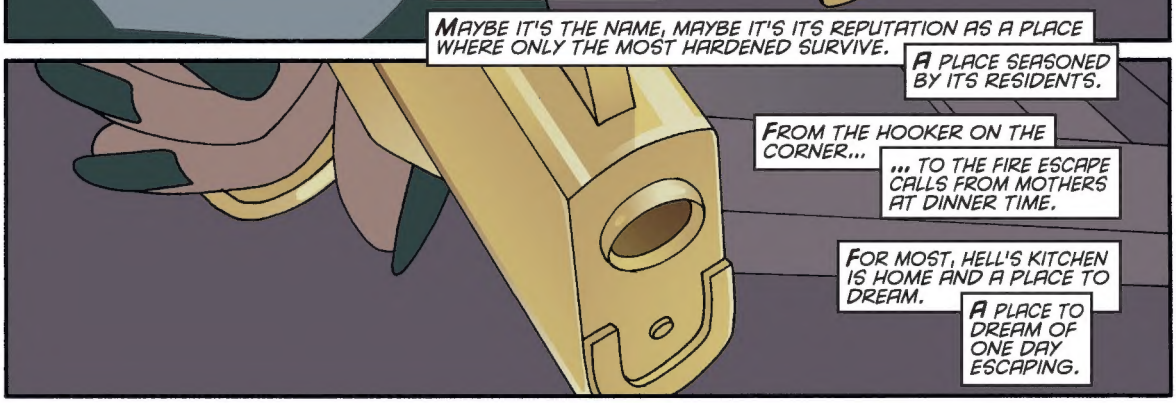
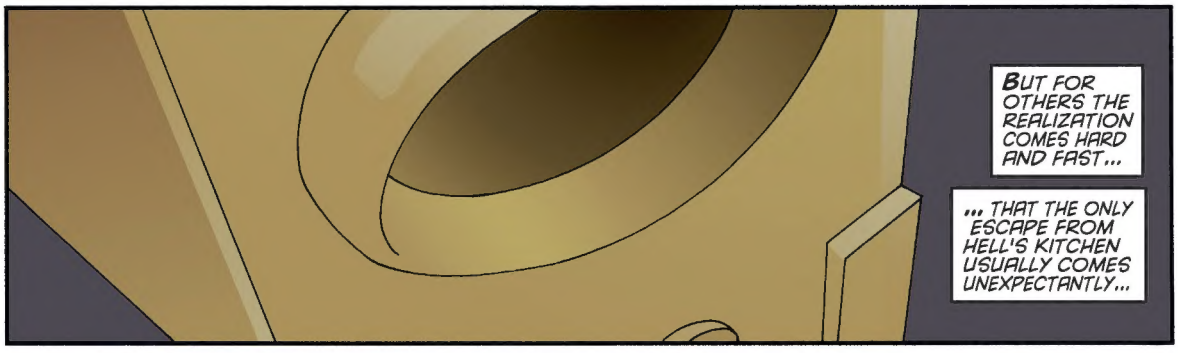
QUESADA
-2000-
392
MACK

HER NAME IS MAYA LOPEZ.
A GIFTED ARTIST AND ATHLETE, SHE POSSESSES THE UNCANNY ABILITY TO MIMIC ANY PHYSICAL ACTION. ALL SHE NEEDS IS TO SEE IT.
MAYA IS ALSO DEAF.
WILSON FISK, THE KINGPIN, TOLD HER A LITTLE STORY YESTERDAY.
THE STORY OF HER FATHER'S MURDER AT THE HANDS OF A MAN DRESSED AS THE DEVIL HIMSELF.
HIS NAME IS DAREDEVIL.
BY DAY, HE'S MATT MURDOCK, ATTORNEY AT LAW.
AS A CHILD HE SAVED AN OLD MAN'S LIFE.
IT WAS A VERY GOOD DEED...
... THAT COST HIM HIS SIGHT.
THROUGH AN INEXPLICABLE ALCHEMY OF FATE AND SCIENCE, MATT'S REMAINING FOUR SENSES WERE HEIGHTENED LIKE A CURSE.
FOR MATT MURDOCK, THE SMELL OF THE GUNPOWDER...
... THE OILY FLAVOR IN THE AIR...
... THE SOUND OF BLOOD RACING THROUGH HER FINGER AS IT TIGHTENS ON THE TRIGGER...
... COMPOSES A MORBID SYMPHONY OF THE SENSES.
A SIMPLE MELODY THAT TELLS HIM THAT HE IS ABOUT TO DIE IN THE VERY PLACE HE WAS BORN AND SWORN TO PROTECT...
... HELL'S KITCHEN.







STAN LEE presents:

DAREDEVIL GUN PLAY

... FROM THE BARREL OF A LOADED GUN.

JOE QUESADA & JIMMY PALMIOTTI	ROB HAYNES	DAVID SELF	RICHARD S & COMICRAFT	KELLY LAMY	NANCI DAKESIAN	BOB HARRAS	ECHO
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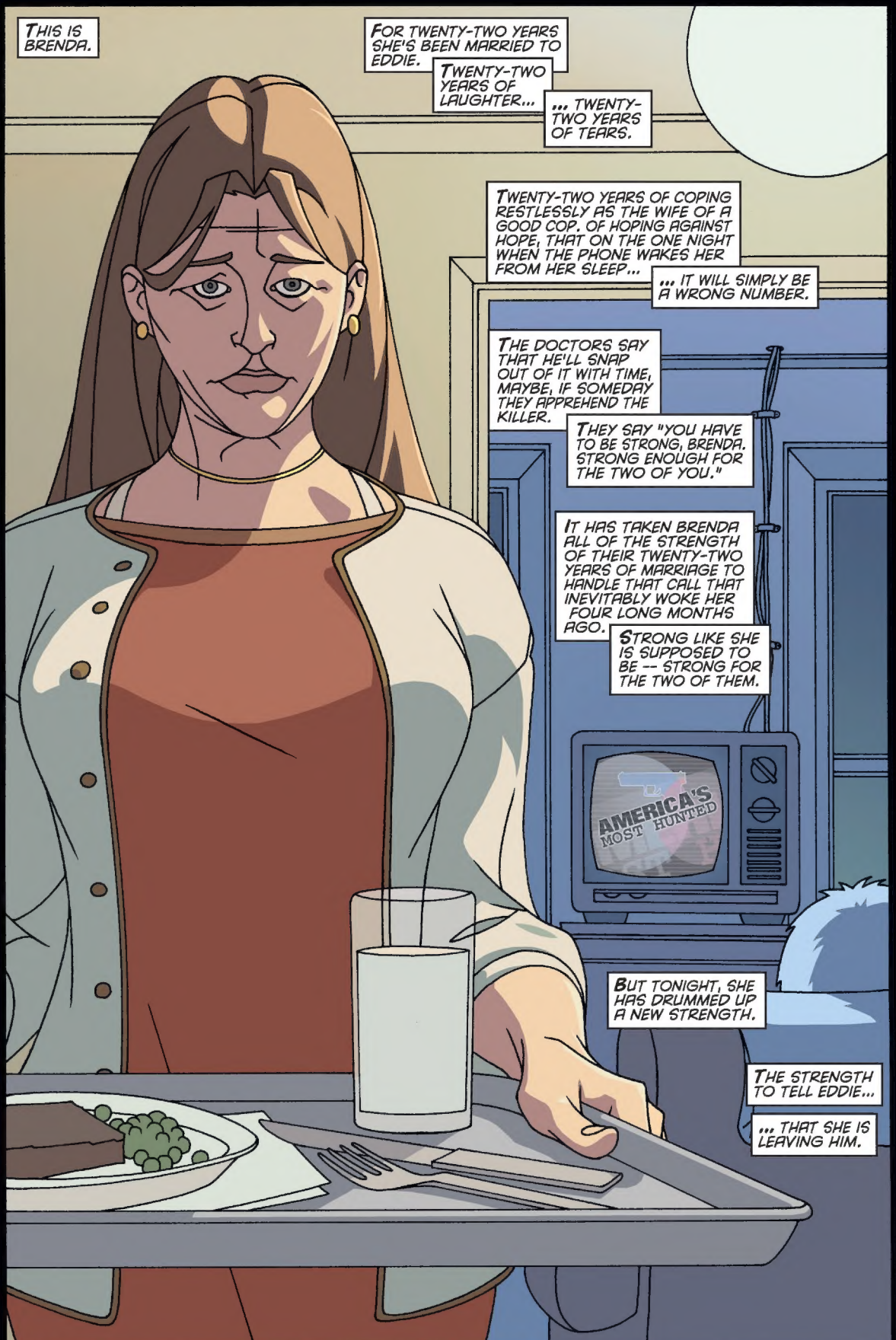

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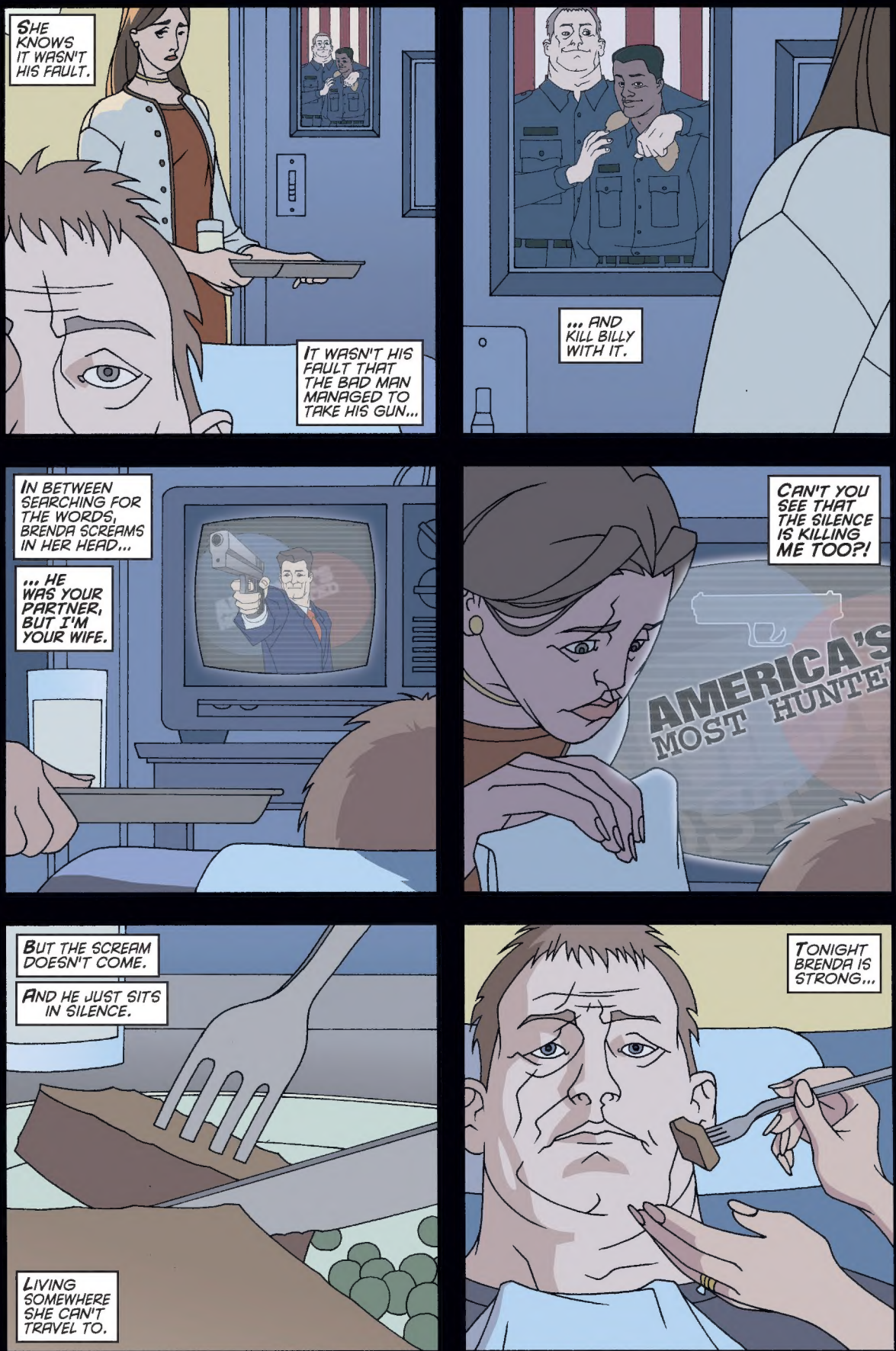
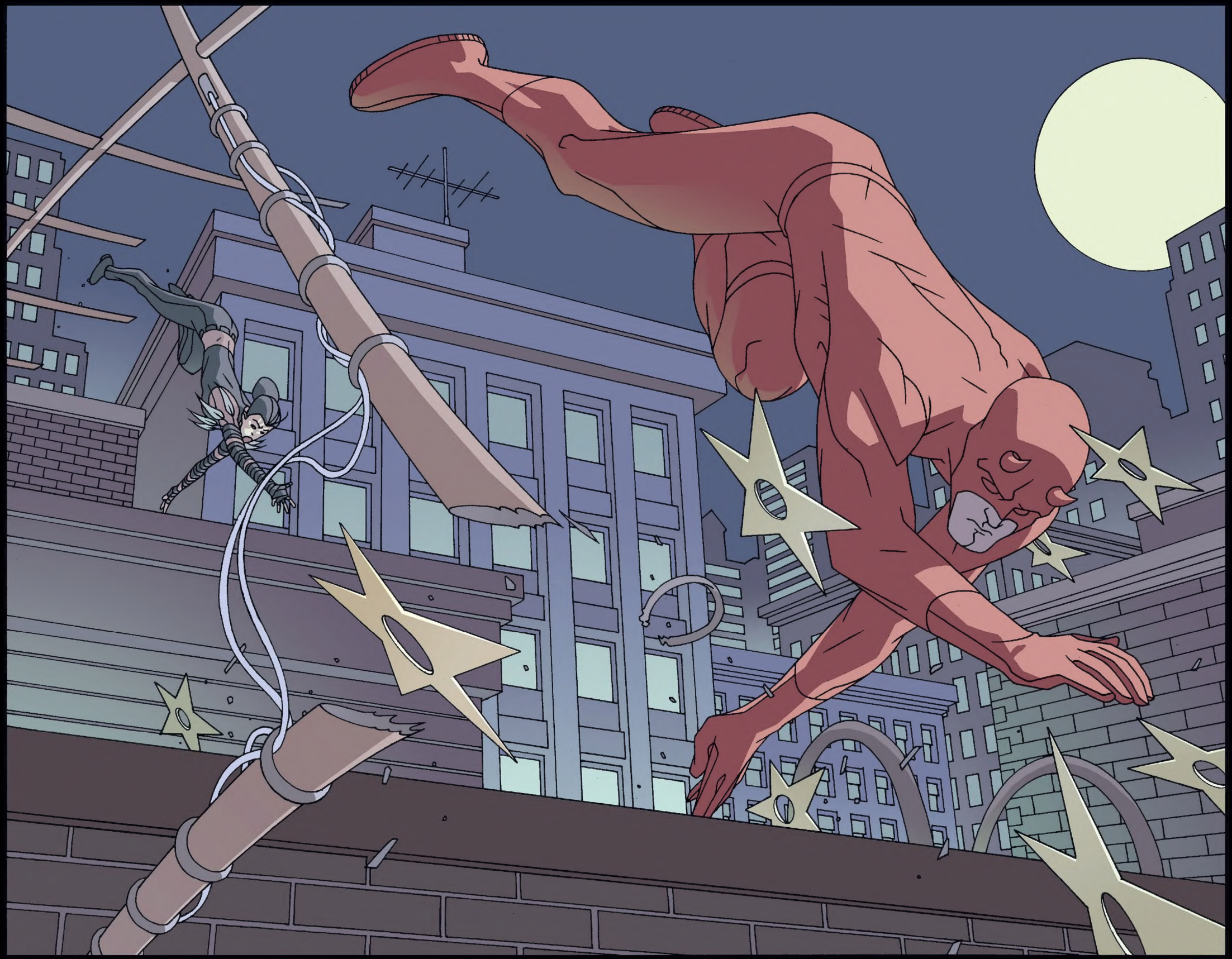
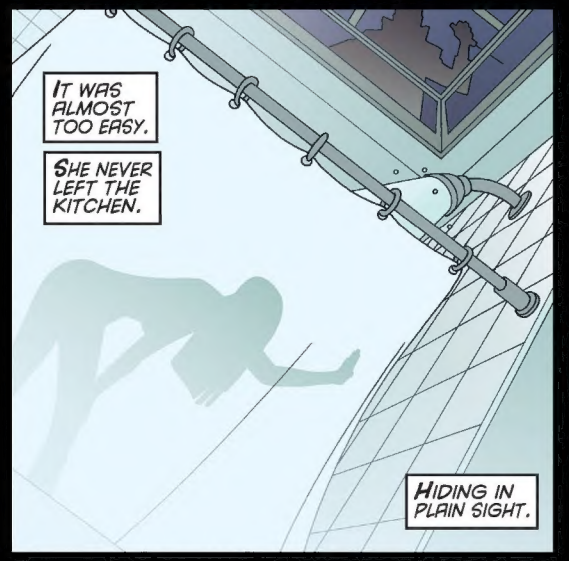
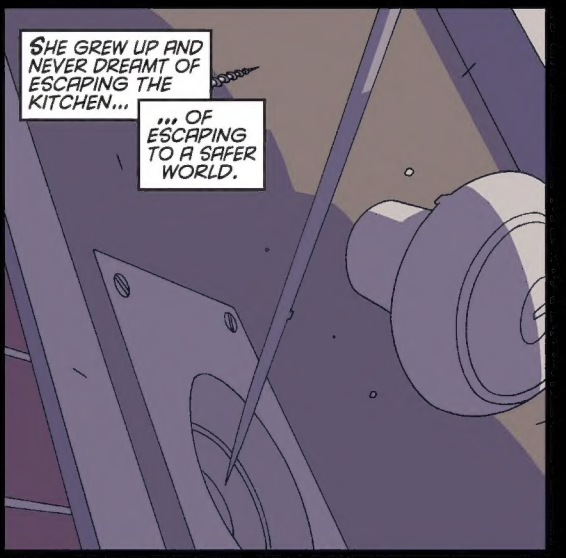

She knows it wasn't his fault.
It wasn't his fault that the bad man managed to take his gun...
... and kill Billy with it.
In between searching for the words, Brenda screams in her head...
... he was your partner, but I'm your wife.
Can't you see that the silence is killing me too?!
America's
Most Hunte
But the scream doesn't come.
And he just sits in silence.
Living somewhere she can't travel to.
Tonight Brenda is strong...



... STRONGER THAN EVER BEFORE.
STRONG ENOUGH TO TELL EDDIE SHE IS LEAVING HIM.
STRONG ENOUGH...
... TO JUST HOLD ON FOR ANOTHER DAY.

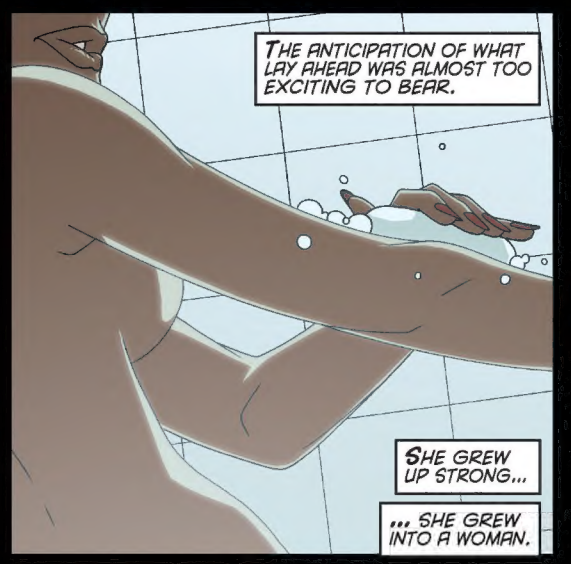
This is Bobby.
On the streets they used to call him "Mad Dog."
Bobby was arrested and convicted for the rape of a fourteen-year-old girl named Chloe.
With the help of the vigilante named Daredevil, and the young girl's testimony, Bobby was sentenced to fifteen years in prison.
He was out in five. They called him a "model prisoner."
In those five years, Bobby had plenty of time to dream.
To dream about returning to the streets and hanging with his boys.
Finding the old smack houses and dealers that called him "friend."
He dreamed of the warm slow rush of the horse in his veins, and the inevitable crack of adrenaline from the crystal meth.
He dreamt of one day being a "player." being "big time."
But mostly Bobby dreamt of the day he would find little Chloe and finish what he started.
He never dreamt that it would take so little time.


IT WAS ALMOST TOO EASY.
SHE NEVER LEFT THE KITCHEN.
HIDING IN PLAIN SIGHT.


SHE GREW UP AND NEVER DREAMT OF ESCAPING THE KITCHEN...
... OF ESCAPING TO A SAFER WORLD.

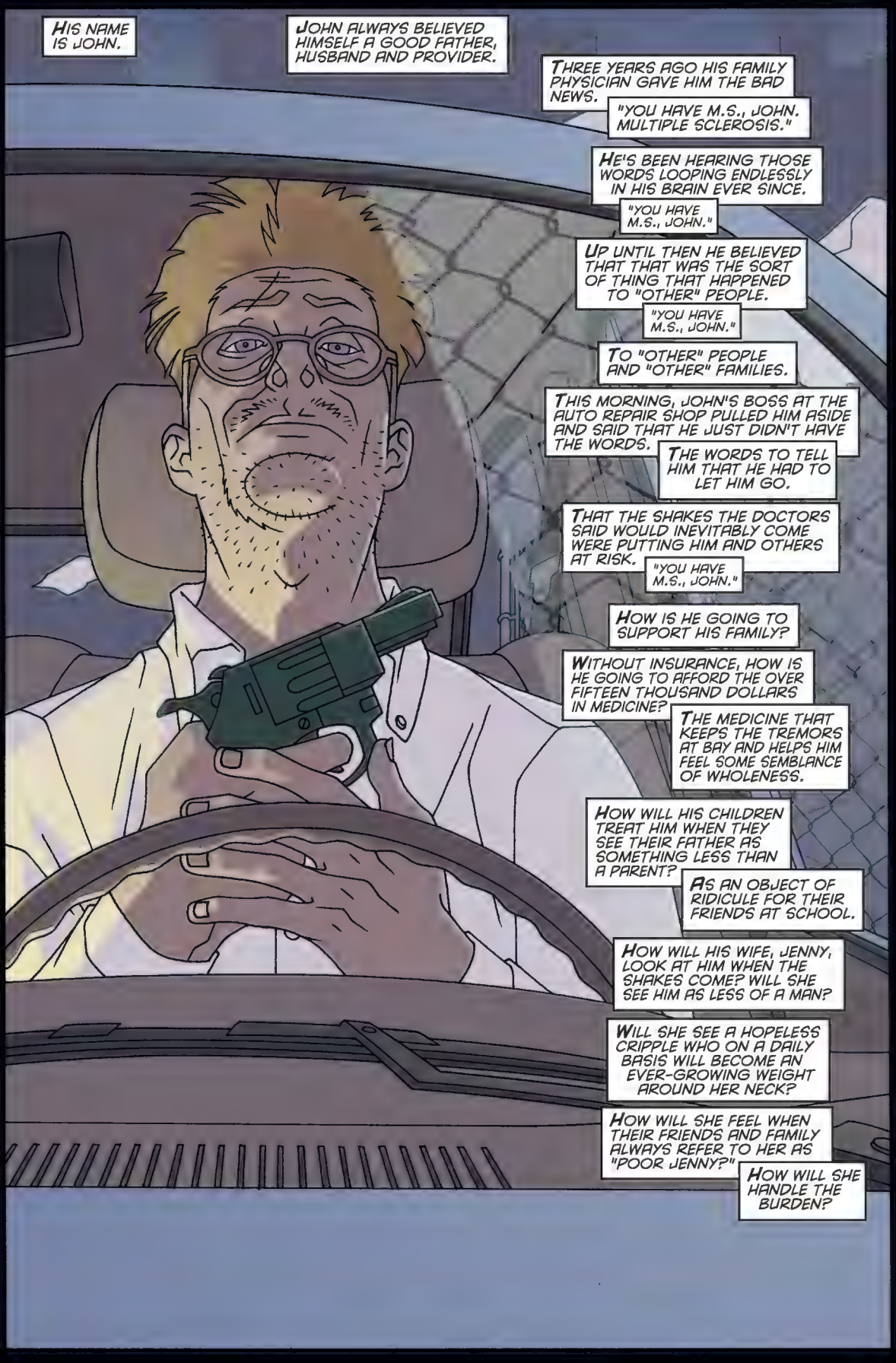
STAIRS
THE RUSH OF THE METH WAS KICKING IN HARD NOW.
HARD LIKE HE LIKED IT.

ESCAPING TO A PLACE WHERE SHE WOULD BE SAFE FROM THE LIKES OF BOBBY.


THE ANTICIPATION OF WHAT LAY AHEAD WAS ALMOST TOO EXCITING TO BEAR.
SHE GREW UP STRONG...
... SHE GREW INTO A WOMAN.

TO A WORLD WHERE THERE WAS NO NEED FOR MEN LIKE DAREDEVIL.

DAREDEVIL!
BOBBY DREAMT ABOUT HIM TOO.
MOSTLY...
... HE HAD NIGHTMARES.


His name is John.
John always believed himself a good father, husband and provider.
Three years ago his family physician gave him the bad news.
"You have M.S., John. Multiple sclerosis."
He's been hearing those words looping endlessly in his brain ever since.
"You have M.S., John."
Up until then he believed that that was the sort of thing that happened to "other" people.
"You have M.S., John."
To "other" people and "other" families.
This morning, John's boss at the auto repair shop pulled him aside and said that he just didn't have the words.
The words to tell him that he had to let him go.
That the shakes the doctors said would inevitably come were putting him and others at risk.
"You have M.S., John."
How is he going to support his family?
Without insurance, how is he going to afford the over fifteen thousand dollars in medicine?
The medicine that keeps the tremors at bay and helps him feel some semblance of wholeness.
How will his children treat him when they see their father as something less than a parent?
As an object of ridicule for their friends at school.
How will his wife, Jenny, look at him when the shakes come? Will she see him as less of a man?
Will she see a hopeless cripple who on a daily basis will become an ever-growing weight around her neck?
How will she feel when their friends and family always refer to her as "poor Jenny?"
How will she handle the burden?

"YOU HAVE M.S., JOHN

NO ONE WANTS TO BE A BURDEN.

"YOU HAVE M.S., JOHN."

JOHN NEVER QUESTIONS GOD.

"YOU HAVE M.S., JOH"

JOHN USED TO BELIEVE ONE SHOULD NEVER QUESTION GOD.

HE STOPPED BELIEVING IN HIM THREE YEARS AGO.

"YOU HAVE M.S., JOHN."

FOR HE GIVES US NO MORE THAN HE FEELS WE ARE CAPABLE OF HANDLING.

BABLAMM

RDY2EXIT

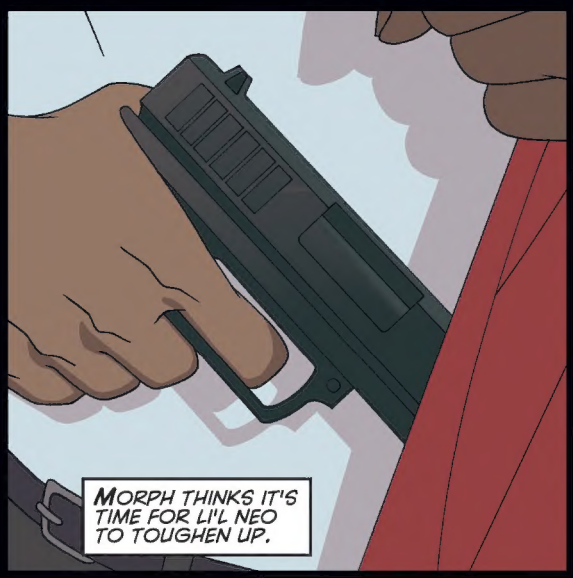
JOHN USED TO BELIEVE THAT IN THE END GOD WOULD SORT IT ALL OUT.
THAT IN THE END HIS UNSEEN HAND WOULD HELP HIM FIND HIS WAY.
JOHN USED TO BELIEVE IN A LOT OF THINGS.
COPKILLER
$200,000
AS OF TODAY HE WILL NEVER STOP BELIEVING IN MIRACLES.

This is Andy, a.k.a. Li'l Neo.
He wishes things could be the same.
The same like when Mr. Kelly was running the youth program.
He taught them teamwork, friendship and compassion for their neighborhood.
He wishes he was still around.
Still around to keep the rest of the kids from going back to the old ways.
The bad ways.
When they used to fight, steal and scare the old folks.
Mr. Kelly promised that he would never leave them. That he would never give up on them.
Maybe it was something they did.
Maybe he felt they weren't worth the trouble.
Maybe they weren't worth anything at all.
He wishes he didn't have these thoughts.
Because that just meant that the others had them too.
Unlike himself the other kids have given up on wishes.
To them, wishes are just another source of disappointment.
To them, guys like Mr. Kelly are a dime a dozen.
Making promises they can't keep.
Making promises that make them feel all noble.
When in fact, they only really care about looking that way.

ANDY WISHES HE COULD MAKE LARRY UNDERSTAND.
UNDERSTAND HOW IMPORTANT IT IS TO BELIEVE IN WISHES.
UNDERSTAND BECAUSE ALL THE OTHER KIDS LOOK UP TO HIM.

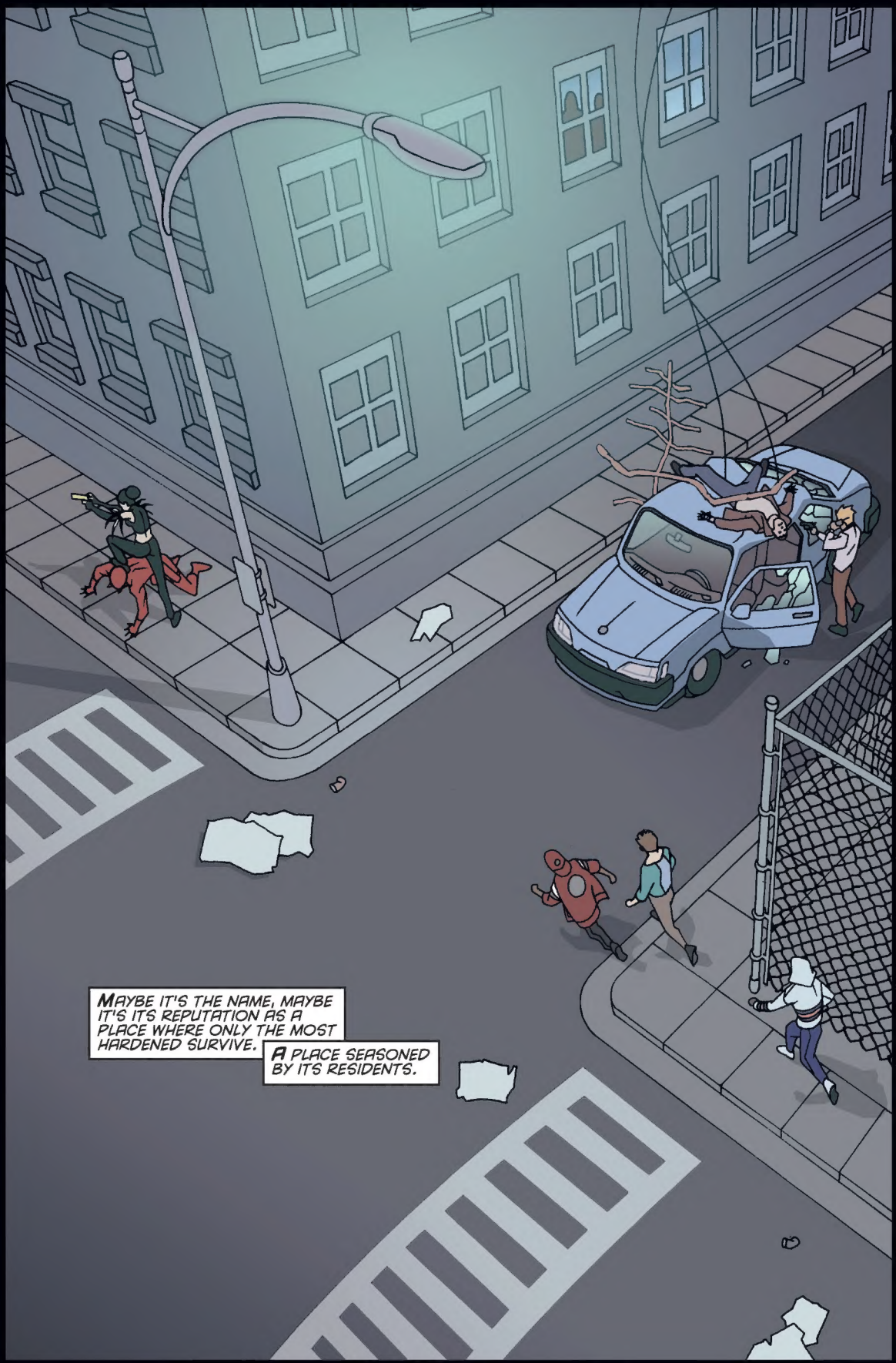
BUT LARRY THINKS ANDY IS A SUCKER FOR BELIEVING IN MR. KELLY.
HE SAYS THAT PEOPLE LIKE THAT DON'T CARE ABOUT PEOPLE LIKE THEM.

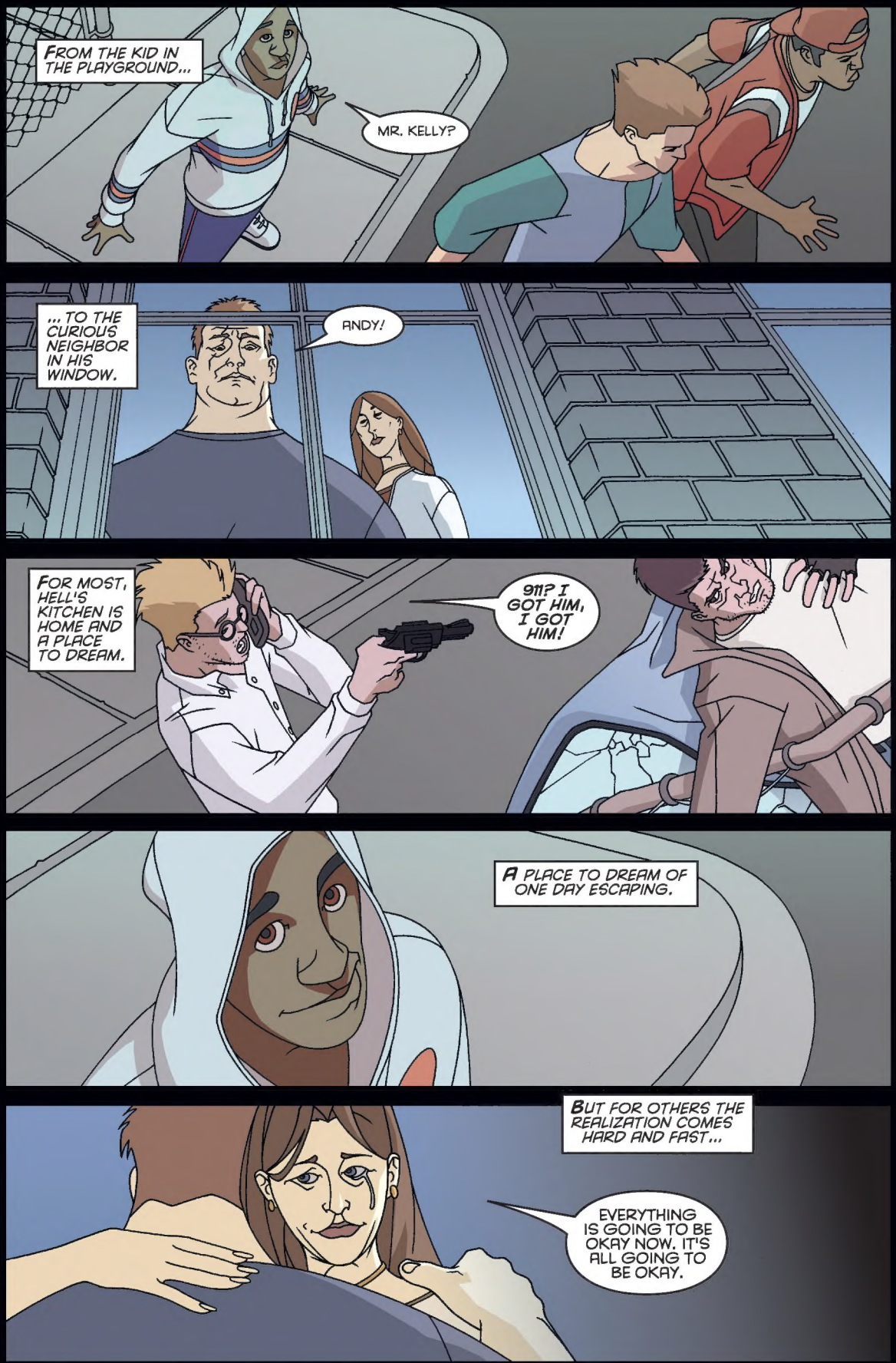
HE ALSO REMINDS ANDY NEVER TO CALL HIM LARRY AGAIN.
HIS NAME'S MORPH AND MORPH LEADS BY EXAMPLE.


MORPH THINKS IT'S TIME FOR LI'L NEO TO TOUGHEN UP.

OR HE'S GOING TO WISH HE WAS NEVER BORN.

KCHCK


MAYBE IT'S THE NAME, MAYBE IT'S IT'S REPUTATION AS A PLACE WHERE ONLY THE MOST HARDENED SURVIVE.
A PLACE SEASONED BY ITS RESIDENTS.


FROM THE KID IN THE PLAYGROUND...
MR. KELLY?
... TO THE CURIOUS NEIGHBOR IN HIS WINDOW.
ANDY!
FOR MOST, HELL'S KITCHEN IS HOME AND A PLACE TO DREAM.
911? I GOT HIM, I GOT HIM!
A PLACE TO DREAM OF ONE DAY ESCAPING.
BUT FOR OTHERS THE REALIZATION COMES HARD AND FAST...
EVERYTHING IS GOING TO BE OKAY NOW. IT'S ALL GOING TO BE OKAY.

That the only escape from Hell's Kitchen usually comes unexpectedly...
...from the barrel of a loaded gun.